DOCKET NO.: MSFT-1973/304061.1

Application No.: 10/621,286
Office Action Dated: June 1, 2005

REMARKS

Claim Amendments

Applicant is re-submitting the response dated March 30, 2005 along with the following additional comments as part of the RCE for Application number 10/621,286.

Applicant has amended independent Claims 1 and 10 in an Office Action response dated March 30, 2005. With reference to Figure 2, Claims 1 and 10 are directed to a docking station 210 absent a computer core 212 (Figure 2 showing an empty computer bay) when the mobile computer 220 is not installed into the computer bay 212. Specification support for this configuration is given in paragraph 0024 (see italicized portions) which discloses:

[0024] Figure 2 depicts a configuration 200 of an exemplary system architecture embodying aspects of the current invention. A multipurpose docking station 210 is shown with exemplary interfaces when the docking station 210 does not have a handheld or other computer 220 inserted into the docking station bay 212.

Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 10 to recite that the external computer 230 is separate from the mobile computer 220 as shown in Figure 2. Also, amended Claims 1 and 10 include the elements of a docking station 210 enabling the communications interface (shown as link 215a) to acquire information of the external computer 230 when the mobile computer 220 is both uninstalled (shown separate from 212 in Figure 2) and without communications with the docking station. Specification support for these limitations is read from both paragraphs 0024 and 0025 as described below.

Support for the absence of communication between the docking station 210 and the mobile computer 220 is given in paragraph 0024 as follows (see italicized portions):

In this configuration, the handheld computer 220 is separate from the docking station 210 and therefore no hard-line communication exists between the docking station and the handheld computer 220. Although it may be possible to insert a wireless or a wire link between the handheld computer 220 and the docking station 210, such a configuration is not considered necessary in the Figure 2 embodiment. The separate handheld computer 220 is only shown for reference in Figure 2. The handheld computer 220 could also be any mobile computer, such as handheld computers, laptop computers or other computer cores. The docking station 210 with no handheld or other computer installed has built-in

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communication and other functional capabilities that are superior to traditional docking stations.

Support for the communications between the docking station without a mobile computer installed and the an external computer is read in the specification in paragraph 0025 as follows (see italicized portions):

[0025] Preferably, the docking station 210 includes a display 214 and a set of wireless electronics to allow the docking station to communicate 215a in a wireless manner to a personal computer 230. Although a tower model personal computer is shown in Figure 2, any personal computer which includes a central processor and a wireless link 215a may be used. Since the docking station has no computer of its own because the computer bay 212 is empty, the docking station acts in a smart display mode or terminal. A smart display allows the use of wireless or other networking technology to provide access to the computer 230 in order to utilize its computing and interface resources.

Applicant submits that the limitations of amended Claims 1 and 10 are fully supported by the specification as filed.

Respectfully submitted,

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